--- 40 Cigarettes - “Rock City / Carreras” - 6-13D - 1939-40 ---

BABN had submitted the die proof of the Series “C” forty cigarettes stamp to Ottawa for approval on July 28th 1939. When the first wartime Budget increased the *excise duty* on small cigarettes from $4.00 to $5.00 per thousand “Rock City” decreased their intended 1939 Christmas box from *forty* to *thirty-six* cigarettes. The pre-war production of the *forty cigarette* box was certainly intended, though not actualized, by Rock City. The hidden letters are “H-S”,

When the next Budget on June 23rd 1940 increased the *excise duty* on small cigarettes from $5.00 to $6.00 per thousand (1¢ per 10 cigarettes) “Rock City” restored *forty* cigarettes for sale *across Canada* at 45¢ per box.

In Quebec which on July 1st 1940 (abolishing all previous municipal and provincial tobacco taxes) had enacted a flat 10% tobacco tax, *forty* cigarettes probably sold for 50¢ per box, with all provincial and federal taxes included.

Their initial code system used a consecutively numbered sequence running from 1 in October 1938. This simple number system began when *up-front* purchase of excise tax stamps was finally enforced, and the companies were required to apply the excise stamp prior to warehousing. This move by the government effectively ended the warehousing of tobacco - no longer was anything to be gained by the former system.

All of the major manufacturers had an *in-house* excise agent who controlled the *stamp-vault* and oversaw the issuance, the surcharging, and the re-surcharging, of the excise stamps. Post-Budget he would oversee the collection of the added excise duty and / or excise tax on the tobacco stamps being held by the company in the *stamp-vault* at the Budget date. Thus when used post-Budget, their pre-Budget stamps were already additional *excise duty* or *excise tax* paid.

The minor companies ***did not*** have an *excise agent* on hand at Budget time. As a temporary stop-gap they added a small value blue excise tax stamp to their packages. Thus there *were no* small company surcharges after a new Budget, and the small companies customarily returned their stamps to Ottawa, either to be forwarded to BABN for re-evaluation, or to be wholesaled (at a discount) to a major company for the appropriate alteration. Thus one finds (especially in the strip tobacco stamps of the major companies) various smaller batches of stamps being company re-valued at a later date than that found on their *on-hand* stamps which were originally re-valued from the company vault. This *service-to-Ottawa* by the major companies ended with the Budget of March 1943, when the tax structure was revised, and the proper stamps were provided on demand with all taxes payable in the month following their shipment.

--- 40 Cigarettes - as used by “Rock City / Carreras” - 6-13D - 1940-41 ---

“Rock City Tobacco” did not alter their method of cancellation for the Budget of September 1939, but to indicate production using stamps purchased under the second wartime Budget of June 1940, they began a new code sequencing using a *reversed calendar year* (e.g. 04) followed by a *letter* from A to D to indicate the year-quarter, and a final number from 1 to 3 to show the month of that year-quarter. Thus the cancellation 04 B1 would read as [1940] - [fiscal quarter two] - [month one] or October 1940.

Stamps purchased before the 1940 Budget were cancelled with the 1940 code sequence, since the *in-house* excise agent had *debited* the company for the new tax total prior to their use. This was an accounting procedure, and was a method of correctly applying the new *excise duty* to the old stamps.

When the Budget of June 1940 increased the *excise duty* on small cigarettes from $5.00 to $6.00 per thousand (or 1¢ per 10 cigarettes) Rock City returned *forty* cigarettes for sale *across Canada*, at an increased price of 45¢.

★RC-401 - 40 cigarettes, perf 11, mimeographed 6 . . 13D / 04 D2
by “Rock City / Carreras”, in November 1940

--- the cancellation reads horizontally upright - 2 copies to date ---

[★RC-401]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1940	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	04D2	04D3
1941	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

--- 40 Cigarettes - as used by “Rock City / Carreras” - 6-13D - 1941-42 ---

The wholesalers found the code system too complicated so, to mark 1941 production, the letter indicating the month was dropped and replaced by the forward reading calendar month in two digits. Thus 1410 would read as [1941] - [10th month] - for October 1941. The type face was also changed to Gothic.

★**RC-401** - 40 cigarettes, perf 11, mimeographed 6 • 13D / 1410
by “Rock City / Carreras”, in October 1941

[★RC-401]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1941	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1490	1410	1411	---
1942	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

* The stencilled date definitely reads as 1490 but the correct Rock City mimeograph should be 1409. The numerical order has been accidentally reversed by the stencil typist.

--- 40 Cigarettes - “Rock City / Carreras” - 6-13D - the 1942 company surcharge ---

When the Budget of June 23rd 1942 under the “Special War Measures Act” (without changing the *excise duty*) imposed an additional *excise tax* of 1¢ per five cigarettes (or fraction thereof) “Rock City” surcharged their *on-hand* sheet of the oblong perforated forty cigarettes stamp with a two-line 3½ mm. Gothic **EXCISE / TAX** above a 4 mm. Roman **8ct** in lower case letters as the company provisional **RC-566**. The collection ***does not contain***, nor have I seen, a copy of this 1942 Rock City provisional - **WANTED!**

--- 40 Cigarettes - BABN's 1942 surcharge - as used by "Rock City / Carreras" - 6-13D ---

At the same time, BABN overprinted sheets of the oblong perforated Series "C" forty cigarettes with their 7 and 3 mm. two-line Gothic **8c. / EXCISE TAX** as **RC-649**.

The cancellation collection ***does not contain*** a code cancelled copy of **RC-649**. Although Rock City was the sole user, after July 1942 they were no longer mimeographing the date and company code on their stamps.

★**RC-649** - **8c. / EXCISE TAX** on 40 cigarettes, perf 11, the BABN red Gothic surcharge of **RC-401**, used by "Rock City Tobacco" under the Budget of June 24th 1942

Under the Budget of 1942 the retail price of *forty* cigarettes for sale *across Canada* would have been 50¢ plus the tax on the stamp or 58¢ per box. In *Quebec* (with their 10% tobacco tax included) the retail would have been 58¢ plus the 10% provincial tax, or 64¢ per box.

This odd-cent pricing probably accounts for the scarcity of the Rock City **8ct** surcharged **RC-566**, since the consumers resisted their sale, preferring to purchase the *across Canada fifty* cigarettes which *in Quebec* would have been priced at 77¢ per box.

--- 40 Cigarettes - “Rock City / Carreras” 16c. / O re-surcharge of RC-649 for the 1943 Budget ---

Although they were no longer coding their product, undoubtedly under the 1942 Budget “Rock City” used the BABN surcharge since when the Budget of March 3rd 1943 doubled the *excise tax* “Rock City” re-surcharged *on-hand* sheets of **RC-649** in *blue-black ink* with a 5 mm. Gothic **16c.** over an 8 mm. *killer square* **O** as the company provisional **RC-722**.

★**RC-722** - **16c. / O** over **8c. / EXCISE TAX** on forty cigarettes, perf 11, the “Rock City” re-surcharge for the March 1943 Budget, made using *on-hand* sheets of **RC-649** purchased under the old June 1942 excise rates

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Obtaining fresh sheets of **RC-649** from Ottawa (or from a smaller Quebec City manufacturer) under the revised excise tax accounting procedures of 1943Rock City repeated their earlier re-surcharge, but to distinguish this production as using 1942 sheets of stamps, they doubled the *killer square* **O O** as the company provisional **RC-723**.

★**RC-723** - **16c. / OO** over **8c. / EXCISE TAX** on forty cigarettes, perf 11, the “Rock City” re-surcharge for the March 1943 Budget, made on sheets obtained post-Budget at 1942 tax rates

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The existence of the *twin-killer* version of the Rock City re-surcharge is in line with Rock City's policy of using two closely similar surcharges under the 1943 Budget. For these *single* and *twin killer* re-surcharges there is a high probability that the first was produced using *on-hand* sheets purchased under the lower 1942 Budget excise tax rate, and the second was made on sheets obtained from Ottawa (or from a smaller Quebec City manufacturer, through their plant *excise agent*).

Under the Budget of March 1943 the retail price of *forty* cigarettes for sale *across Canada* would have been 50¢, plus the tax on the stamp, or 66¢ per box. In *Quebec* (with their 10% tobacco tax included) the retail would have been 50¢, plus the Federal tax on the stamp, plus the 10% provincial tax, or 73¢ per box.

--- 40 Cigarettes - BABN's dark blue 16c. re-surcharge of RC-649 for the March 1943 Budget ---

There is no doubt that "Rock City" used the 1943 BABN re-surcharge **16c.** over **8c. / EXCISE TAX** on forty cigarettes. The existence of the *imperforate* forty cigarette re-surcharge **RC-723** makes the existence of an *imperforate* 1942 BABN forty cigarette surcharge probable.

Although none of the following are cancelled by "Rock City Tobacco", the fact that the 40 cigarette stamp was not used by any manufacturer, other than Rock City", necessitates their inclusion at this point.

★**RC-722** - **16c.** over **8c. / EXCISE TAX** on 40 cigarettes, perf 11, the BABN re-surcharge for March 1943

★**RC-723** - **16c.** over **8c. / EXCISE TAX** on 40 cigarettes, imperf, the BABN re-surcharge for March 1943

Under the Budget of March 1943 the retail price of *forty* cigarettes for sale *across Canada* would have been 50¢, plus the tax on the stamp, or 66¢ per box. In *Quebec* (with their 10% tobacco tax included) the retail would have been 50¢, plus the Federal tax on the stamp, plus the 10% provincial tax, or 73¢ per box.

--- 40 Cigarettes - BABN's red surcharge of RC-401 for the March 1943 Budget ---

For general distribution under the March 1943 Budget, BABN surcharged the Series "C" forty cigarettes with their 6 and 3 mm. Gothic two-line **16c. / EXCISE TAX** as the *perforated* **RC-800**, and as the *imperforate* **RC-799**.

★**RC-800** - **16c. / EXCISE TAX** on 40 cigarettes, perf 11, the BABN surcharge for March 1943

★**RC-799** - **16c. / EXCISE TAX** on 40 cigarettes, imperf, the BABN surcharge for March 1943

Under the Budget of March 1943 the retail price of *forty* cigarettes for sale *across Canada* would have been 50¢, plus the tax on the stamp, or 66¢ per box. In *Quebec* (with their 10% tobacco tax included) the retail would have been 50¢, plus the Federal tax on the stamp, plus the 10% provincial tax, or 73¢ per box.

File path is [c:\ MS - STAMPS \ RC_STAMPS \ 1935 - Series C \ 40 cigarettes \ 6-13D - oblong],
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